

SAYS VIRGINIA HOSPITAL IS CITY'S SINK POCKET

Grundy Declares Institution Is Imposed Upon by People Who Can Afford to Pay.

CITY MUST BORROW \$300,000

Has Expended So Far \$854,000 In Excess of Collections—Delay in Receipts Due to New Tax Laws, Says Crenshaw.

"The Virginia Hospital is one of the greatest sink pockets in the city of Richmond," declared Chairman Grundy of the Finance Committee, explaining to the Board of Aldermen last night the necessity for appropriating \$17,000 over and above the sum set aside for it in the budget to run the institution the remainder of the year.

"It costs the city an enormous amount of money to keep this hospital going for the simple reason that we are treating free of charge a large number of people who, under former conditions, would have paid for treatment. Any number of people who should bear their own hospital expenses, statements declaring that they are destitute, and are being treated at the expense of the city. We are practically maintaining a free hospital for everybody in the city, and it costs money."

FINANCE COMMITTEE TO MAKE TEMPORARY LOAN

The Board of Finance in money matters when the Finance Committee reported a resolution asking to be permitted to negotiate a temporary loan of \$300,000 to meet outstanding obligations. When the report was introduced by Chairman Grundy at the special meeting of the Board Friday night, it called for authority to borrow only \$200,000. Since then the committee has found that at least \$100,000 more will be needed.

In offering the amended resolution, Chairman Grundy presented a statement submitted to him by City Auditor Crenshaw, showing that up to and including October 1, the city had expended for general fund appropriations in excess of collections, the sum of \$854,000. With a cash balance of \$145,415.10 on October 1, the total expended and unexpended in excess of collections, was \$1,003,585.64. Of this amount \$749,000 has been borrowed from banks, and \$254,585.64 has been borrowed from bond funds.

BALANCE WITH SHORTLY RECEIVED

BE WHIPPED OUT, SAYS GRUNDY

The balance of \$145,415.10 on hand on October 1, Colonel Grundy explained, will be whiped out within the next few days by payroll and other demands, leaving the city to meet in the immediate future obligations aggregating approximately \$300,000, for which amount the Finance Committee asks authority to negotiate a temporary loan.

Among the principal obligations to be met out of this loan, Auditor Crenshaw lists the following: streets generally, \$100,000; annexed territory, \$25,000; Henrico County roads, \$40,000; Water Department, \$30,000; Department, \$30,000; Virginia Hospital, \$17,000; Street Cleaning Department, \$10,000; Electric Plant, \$5,000; and superannuated employees, \$2,000. Total, \$232,000.

While part of this sum represents regular appropriations for these purposes in the budget, a large proportion, Colonel Grundy explained, represents income found to be needed in excess of the amounts appropriated in the budget ordinance. In this class fall expenditures for streets and annexed territory, improvements which were not anticipated by the budget makers.

CITY HAS DEBT IN LARGE UNCOLLECTED REVENUES

With a floating indebtedness of \$749,000, already owed by the city, the banks, and a prospective \$300,000 additional loan which will increase the floating indebtedness to \$1,049,000, all of which, according to the Auditor, has been or will have to be expended to take care of the city's obligations this year, the city, says Mr. Crenshaw, has a large debt in uncollected revenues amounting to \$100,000, out of which to repay the temporary loans.

Both this office and the treasurer's office, Auditor Crenshaw reports to Chairman Grundy, are anticipating that we would get a large amount of taxes during the month of September and October, but on account of numerous changes in the law, the city has been exceedingly small. To September 3, the tax collections are approximately \$125,000 less than for 1914, under similar normal conditions they would have been approximately \$200,000 greater than for 1914.

BUDGET MAKERS WILL FACE LARGE DEFICIT

Subsequent from the \$125,000 borrowed and to be borrowed from the banks, the \$200,000 in taxes which the city will collect before the end of the fiscal year, the city will have a deficit of approximately \$600,000, which will be carried over to the next budget. To this is added the \$254,585.64 which has been borrowed from bond funds, making a total floating deficit of \$854,585.64.

The city began the year with a deficit of \$347,000. Deducting from the estimated \$150,000 deficit that is now apparent, the city is expected to have a deficit of \$197,000. Improvements for which later bond issues are contemplated will leave a deficit for the makers of the new budget which will be slightly in excess of the deficit which was carried over from last year.

GRUNDY PROPOSES CONDITION SATISFACTORY

The financial situation of the city was pronounced satisfactory by Colonel Grundy, who expressed the belief that as soon as the new tax laws are satisfactorily put into effect, the money affairs of the city will be adjusted on a clearly-defined basis which will keep the city's income within the limits of its expenditures. With the new tax laws, he said, the city has been found impossible during the year just past.

Alderman Puller was inclined to criticize the expenditure of large sums in excess of collections, and said that he will make an effort to secure a charter amendment which will make it impossible for any department to expend more money than is allocated to it in the budget. Alderman Puller is in favor of reducing the new temporary loan from \$300,000 to \$200,000, but the board supported the committee's recommendation.

RULED DISCOURAGED

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] RALEIGH, N. C., October 12.—The convention of the North Carolina Church of the Good Shepherd, organized this afternoon with the appointment of committees. The evening session was devoted to hearing the report of Archbishop Hughes and addressed by Rev. George W. Lay, D. D., of St. Mary's School, and George B. Elliott, of Wilmington, assistant general counsel of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad.

CONFIDENCE MEN GET \$253 FROM ABE MILTON

Hard to Convince Confectioner That Smooth-Talking Men Were Not What They Claimed.

OFFERED HIM \$100 FOR AID

Spaniard Wanted Milton to Buy Him a Ticket Back to His Native Land, Said He Found Difficulty in Being Understood.

Confidence men yesterday "touched" Abraham Milton, 117 North Third Street, for \$253. They made good their escape, in spite of swift work on the part of the police, and although investigations were still in progress early this morning, neither of them had been located.

Milton informed Captain McMahon, of the detective force, that he had met a Spaniard on East Main Street, and that the man had offered him \$100 if he would assist him in securing a ticket to Spain. He said he was a stranger here, that he found difficulty in making himself understood and that he trusted no man.

Milton, who is a confectioner, readily consented to assist the stranger, and they set out for one of the downtown ticket offices. On the way they confided with another stranger, who gave the name of Smith, and after apologies had been offered, the Spaniard began explaining to the second stranger their reason for being in the city. The explanation of the explanation was that the Spaniard offered each of the two other men \$100 for their assistance.

MILTON GIVES SPANIARD HIS ROLL OF BILLS TO HOLD

Smith gave him a strong ring of talk. He informed the Spaniard and Milton that he was a barber here, that Richmond business men trusted one another and that he and Milton were glad to assist. He drew a roll of bills from his pocket and, followed by the Spaniard, Milton drew forth his roll, containing the \$253.

Smith left Milton and the Spaniard standing on the street while he went to inquire about the cost of the ticket to Spain. He returned in a few minutes, but his explanation did not satisfy either Milton or the Spaniard. Milton in the meantime had pooled his roll of money with that of Smith, and the Spaniard was holding it. When Smith returned with the unsatisfactory information about the ticket, Milton offered to inquire on his own account.

He left the two strangers and went to the ticket office, a short distance away. After making inquiries he returned to the spot where he had left his companions. Milton could not see them. He spent several minutes in the search, and then he began to suspect that they had departed and had taken his \$253 with them. The man went directly to headquarters, where he made his report. Captain McMahon had some difficulty in making Milton certain that he had been duped, for he was positive that Smith was a local barber, and was determined to locate his shop.

All of the railway stations were visited about train time by headquarters detectives, but without result.

CARTOONIST TO LECTURE

The service of Merritt LeRoy, of Ashkosh, Wis., has been secured by the Woman's Prohibition League of America for a month's work in Virginia.

A series of appointments have been made for him in Richmond, beginning October 16 at 8:30 o'clock at the Central Y. M. C. A. Sunday at 2:30 to Y. M. C. A. Sunday night at Broad Street Methodist Church; Monday night, Railroad Y. M. C. A. Tuesday night, Central Methodist Church; South Richmond, Wednesday night, Leigh Street Baptist Church; Thursday night, at Fulton Baptist Church.

At each of these churches the hour will be 8 o'clock. He will present in his original manner, with the following subjects: "Now and Then," "Songs," "You and I," "A Wayward Youth," "Making Faces."

Mr. LeRoy has appeared in many of the large cities of the world, and is recognized as being an artist and orator of ability.

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POLICE FAIL TO LOCATE SHEPPARD'S ASSAILANT

Detectives Scour City in Vain for Negro Who Struck Lawyer on Monument Avenue.

HIS OUTER SKULL FRACTURED

Condition Is Serious, Says Attending Physician—Miss Sheppard Gives Police Clear Account of Attack and Robbery.

Detectives from Police Headquarters were scouring the city yesterday in an effort to discover some clue which would lead to the identification of the man who assaulted Robert A. Sheppard and his sister, Miss Julia Sheppard, of 501 Rosemeath Road, near Monument Avenue and Tilden Street, about 11:30 o'clock Monday night. Their efforts had been unsuccessful up to an early hour this morning.

Sheppard was struck on the side of the head with either a blackjack or a piece of lead pipe. His physician, Dr. E. J. Moseley, Jr., said last night that the outer table of the skull had been fractured and that his patient was in a serious condition still. Dr. Moseley and several other physicians held a conference yesterday but decided that no further operation would be necessary at this time. They are of the opinion that Mr. Sheppard will improve, although the shock and the injury placed him in a precarious condition for some time.

It was not until 11 o'clock yesterday morning that he could be moved to his bedroom, having spent the intervening hours in one of the downstairs rooms of his residence. Detectives were unable to see him early yesterday, when they visited the home, and it was not until nearly midday that the physicians would allow them to talk with the injured man.

MISS SHEPPARD GIVES ACCOUNT TO POLICE

Miss Julia Sheppard was also in a highly nervous state yesterday morning, but toward the middle of the day succeeded in regaining control of her nerves. She was able to give the detectives but little information in addition to that which was furnished by the police immediately after the assault.

According to the story given the police, Sheppard and his sister were walking along Monument Avenue toward their home, when suddenly the assault was seen as he sprang from behind a tree box. The man struck Sheppard a vicious blow before either he or his sister was able to make a move toward defense. Sheppard fell to the sidewalk unconscious and with a stream of blood flowing from the wound in his head. The man grabbed Miss Sheppard's silk handbag, containing \$5 and at once took to his heels.

Miss Sheppard informed the police that she was holding the arm of her brother at the time the blow was struck and that when he fell she was dragged down also. Her arm was badly bruised. She said that she remained on the ground for a short time and began screaming.

PASSING AUTOMOBILIST READERS NO ASSISTANCE

An automobile was seen approaching and she halted it, but the driver paid no attention to her other than to yell something about letting him alone, and drove on.

Miss Sheppard attempted to raise her brother and saw the blood flowing from his head. She then set out as fast as possible for the residence of W. F. Forbes. Arriving there, she informed Paul G. B. Blanchard of what had occurred and he at once brought out his machine and went for Sheppard. He conveyed him to his residence, still in an unconscious condition. Dr. Moseley was summoned and treated the injured man.

The police were on the scene in a short time, but they were unable to discover any trace of the assailant. Miss Sheppard said it was impossible for her to furnish any description of the man, as he had appeared and disappeared so suddenly that she had hardly seen him.

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MONTAGUE PAYS HONOR TO CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Discovery Day Is Fittingly Observed in Exercises at McGill Union Hall.

BISHOP O'CONNELL SPEAKS

Congressman From This District Says That Nowhere in Civilized World Is Rank and File So Well Off as in America.

Congressman Andrew Jackson Montague was the principal speaker last night at the exercises held in the auditorium of the McGill Union, 810 East Grace Street, in celebration of Discovery Day, commemorating the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, on October 12, 1492.

Mr. Montague, who was followed by Rt. Rev. D. J. O'Connell, Bishop of the Richmond Diocese, was introduced by John J. Blake, past grand knight of the Richmond Council, Knights of Columbus. He spoke for about an hour, holding his audience extremely interested, both by reason of his impressive subject and his manner of speaking.

He related the earlier life of Columbus, and referred to his many hardships previous to the memorable visit to Queen Isabella of Spain, which convinced her of his fitness for his expedition. At just this time, said Mr. Montague, conditions were awakening in the entire old country, Italy, England, and all of the other countries, were recovering from their inactivity, and this was the beginning of the New World.

ACHIEVEMENTS DEMONSTRATE CHARACTER OF COLUMBUS

"Columbus was not an enthusiast, not a romantic," said Mr. Montague. He was a great man, and his achievements demonstrated this conclusively. His strong character was displayed when his crew threatened to rebel. They did not have his convictions and courage, and were easily discouraged, for their equipment was most crude.

While America was discovered in 1492, there were no steps taken to develop and improve the new found world until May, in 1607, when the first English settlement landed. This was really the beginning of the New World. One thing that has promoted the growth of this country so rapidly is its ability to absorb immigrants, continued Mr. Montague. Those people that come to America are hard workers and tell faithfully, "Every man that made up his mind to come to America was an American before he came to this country," said Mr. Montague.

NOWHERE IS RANK AND FILE SO WELL OFF AS IN AMERICA

The speaker stated that the average American did not love his country as much as he should. He said that he had been abroad several times, and that each time he loved this country better when he set foot on home soil. He asked, "Will we find the rank and file of mankind in as highly cultivated state as in this country?"

The celebration of Discovery Day in Richmond was a quiet and impressive affair. At the McGill home last night patriotic airs and musical numbers were rendered. The Italian colony of the city usually holds exercises in commemoration of the day, but the disrupted condition brought about by the war prevented any exercises here this year.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR ROAD IS OPPOSED BY COMMITTEE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] PETERSBURG, Va., October 12.—The Finance Committee of the City Council at a special session of the Common Council to-night, recommended that an appropriation of \$50,000 to aid in building a permanent road between Petersburg and Hopewell be not made. The committee's recommendation was based upon an opinion by City Attorney Mason that bonds could not be issued for the purpose. Upon motion of Councilman Patton, patron of the resolution to make the appropriation, action upon the committee's recommendation was postponed until the next regular meeting of the Council.

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